

REMARKS:

Rejections:

The Examiner has indicated that claim 6 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten to put them in independent form. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 19. Similarly, the applicant has amended claim 6 to make it independent.

Since claims 2, 3, 5 and 7-17 all depend from allowable claim 1, they are allowable over the prior art.

The Examiner has rejected claim 20 as being obvious over Lin in view of Werner. The Applicant has amended claim 20 to recite that the compressive layers comprise Rh. None of the references, alone or in combination teaches the use of Rh as a compressive layer in a data storage system such as that claimed in claim 20. Therefore, the Applicant sincerely believes that claim 20 as amended is allowable over the prior art.

The Examiner has objected to claim 4 as being a duplicate of claim 21. Accordingly the Applicant has cancelled claim 4. In addition, the Examiner has indicated that claim 21 is allowable.

The Applicant has also added new claim 22, which, similar to allowed claim 21, recites the use of a specific compressive material. More specifically, claim 22 recites the use of Rh as a compressive layer formed above said first and second recessed portions of said shield. Since none of the references teaches the use of Rh as a compressive material, the Applicant sincerely believes that claim 22 is allowable. Support for this new claim 22, can be found in the specification on page 13, lines 11 through 19.

The Applicant believes that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is, therefore, sincerely requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 971-2573. For payment of any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2587 (Order No. HSJ920030272US1).

Respectfully submitted,

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